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## UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

KASRA ELIASIEH,

Plaintiff,

v.

LEGALLY MINE, LLC,

Defendant.

Case No. 18-cv-03622-JSC

## **ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE RE: JURISDICTION**

Re: Dkt. No. 1

Plaintiff Kasra Eliasieh brings various state law claims against Defendant Legally Mine, LLC as a putative class action arising from Plaintiff's purchase of an asset protection plan. (Dkt. No. 1.)<sup>1</sup> The Court has an independent obligation to satisfy itself that it has federal subject matter jurisdiction. Valdez v. Allstate, 372 F.3d 1115, 1116 (9th Cir. 2004); see also Gonzalez v. Thaler, 565 U.S. 134, 141 (2012) ("When a requirement goes to subject matter jurisdiction, courts are obligated to consider sua sponte issues that the parties have disclaimed or have not presented . . . Subject matter jurisdiction can never be waived or forfeited").

Plaintiff, as "[t]he party seeking to invoke the district court's diversity jurisdiction . . . bears the burden of . . . pleading . . . diversity jurisdiction." NewGen, LLC v. Safe Cig, LLC, 840 F.3d 606, 613-14 (9th Cir. 2016). Plaintiff alleges that the Court has diversity jurisdiction under 28 U.S.C. § 1332(a) "because the citizenship of the parties is completely diverse and the amount in controversy exceeds \$75,000." (Dkt. No. 1 at ¶ 1.) This conclusory allegation—devoid of any connection to the facts—is insufficient to satisfy Plaintiff's burden. See Matheson v. Progressive Specialty Ins. Co., 319 F.3d 1089, 1091 (9th Cir. 2003) ("Conclusory allegations as to the amount

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Record citations are to material in the Electronic Case File ("ECF"); pinpoint citations are to the ECF-generated page numbers at the top of the documents.

## United States District Court Northern District of California

in controversy are insufficient.").

The complaint does not contain a demand for a particular amount of damages and does not otherwise allege facts satisfying the amount-in-controversy requirement. Instead, Plaintiff alleges that he paid \$7,800 to Defendant for the asset protection plan on October 13, 2016. (Dkt. No. 1 at ¶ 23.) There are no other facts alleged in the complaint that make it self-evident that diversity jurisdiction is satisfied. Plaintiff's complaint therefore fails to allege diversity jurisdiction because it is not apparent that the matter in controversy—concerning a \$7,800 purchase—exceeds \$75,000.

Accordingly, Plaintiff is ORDERED TO SHOW CAUSE as to how the Court has subject matter jurisdiction over this action. **Plaintiff shall show cause in writing on or before April 11, 2019.** Defendant may reply by April 17, 2019.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

Dated: April 3, 2019

JACQUELINE SCOTT CORLEY
United States Magistrate Judge